

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Apparatus and method for applying tax stamps to individual cigarette packages of different cigarette cart-
ons, manufactured by different cigarette manufacturers and
therefore having different height dimensions, comprises a
cigarette carton height determination station, a cigarette
carton opening station, a cigarette package tax stamp appli-
cation station, a cigarette carton closing station, and a
cigarette carton exit station. Each particular cigarette
carton has its height dimension determined at the first
cigarette carton height determination station, and such
height dimension data is transmitted to a programmable lo-
gic controller (PLC). Cigarette carton opening mechanisms
are located at the cigarette carton opening station, a tax
stamp applicator is located at the tax stamp application
stamper, and cigarette carton closing mechanisms are locat-
ed at the cigarette carton closing station. All of such
mechanisms are operatively connected to elevational adjust-
ment servo drive mechanisms which are controlled by the pro-
grammable logic controller (PLC) so as to automatically ad-
just the elevational disposition of such mechanisms in ac-
cordance with the height dimension data characteristic of
each cigarette carton.